say, whatever might be the opinion of the Honourable Member asking for it, they do not consider that the time and labour involved in the collection of the statistics are not commensurate with the result. They are entitled to say so.

Mr. E. P. Bhaskara Menon.—Will the Government be kind enough to first give the answer and then pass this remark?

Mr. K. M. Ibrahim.—It is an abuse, Sir, to give such evasive answers. Not a day passes without such answers.

District Registrars—drawing of maximum pay.

160. **Mr. P. Raman Menon.**—Will the Government be pleased to state whether it is possible at all for a Registrar newly recruited to the Department to draw the maximum for a first grade Registrar under the present rules regarding grades and increments?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar.—The question is too hypothetical to admit of a definite answer.

Mr. P. Raman Menon.—How many grades of Registrars are there?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar.— Four; 60—80; 80—100; 100—125; and 125—150.

Mr. P. Raman Menon.—How much time will it take for one Registrar to complete that grade?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar.—It depends upon each officer himself and how he discharges his duties.

Mr. P. Raman Menon.—How much time will he take to complete that grade under normal conditions?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar.—25 years.

Mr. P. Raman Menon.—There is only one post in the grade of 125-150. Therefore the question is whether it is possible for a man recruited to the lowest grade to get Rs. 150 before he retires? It is not possible.

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar.—I do not deny it is possible. The question is very vague. It all depends upon the man. Is it possible to enter the kingdom of heaven?

Mr. P. Raman Menon.—Many rich men have gone to the kingdom of heaven; he may or may not.

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As there is only a fixed number of posts of Registrars in the different grades, for any Registrar to reach the maximum — if there is only a time grade — he has to remain in the lower grades. As there is only one man in the first grade, he will have to wait till that man dies. And before he will see Rs. 150 he will have to retire. He will see Rs. 150 but he will get only 140. It is only to point out this that I put this question. And if they realise my point I am satisfied.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Is the number of posts in the lowest grade 60-80 not 16?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar.—It is 17.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Does not the Government realise that Registrars Recruited to the lowest grade are forced to stagnate at 80 after 5 years till one vacancy occurs in the higher grade to get a promotion?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar.—I have not calculated by permutation and combination. We will not be able to give a definite answer now.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—After reaching the maximum of a grade have they not to wait till a vacancy occurs in the Higher Grade?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar.—Naturally it is one of the inevitable things in Government Service.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—May I know whether of the 17 Registrars in the lowest grade 14 are filled up by Graduates in Law?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar.—I want notice.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Was it not the practice of the Government till about a few years back to draft on to the Magisterial line Registrars who are graduates in law?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar.—It had been; I am aware it is not a policy of Government.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan.—Is it in order for the Government Member to say that the question is too hypothetical?

Mr. President.—It is the prerogative of the President.

Mr. A. V. Moothedan.—The President has ruled that it is not hypothetical by allowing the question.

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Mr. President.—The President can say whether it is hypothetical or not but it is for the Government to say that it is too hypothetical for a definite answer.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Will the Government be pleased to consider the desirability either of having a regrading of the numbers in the various grades or giving the registrars a time scale of Rs. 60–150 with a reasonable increment every year?

Mr. T. S. Narayana Ayyar.—This is not a question peculiar to the Registration Department. It is common with so many departments. It is notoriously so in the Education Department. If we are to interfere with these departments, Government do not know where they will have to stop.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—Considering the large army in the Education Department and considering the small number, 25 persons, of this department, will the Government think it desirable to put them in a different footing?

Mr. President.—In other words, an injustice ceases to be an injustice if it applies to a number of people.

Mr. P. Kumaran Ezhuthassan.—I do not know how the Chair can draw such inferences from my question. Will the Government be pleased to consider the desirability of either giving them a time scale or at least a rearrangement of the posts reducing the posts in the lowest grade or at least raising the number of posts in the higher grades just to give a simple justice to those persons who are there?

Mr T. S. Narayana Ayyar.—It is not possible to give a definite promise. In one department there are only a few persons. Some Hon'ble Member, say the Member for Education or the Member for Police, will raise the same question before this House. That is possible.

Approach road from the Avinisseri level crossing to the Ollur Railway Station.

161. **Mr. E. Ikkanda Warriar.**—Will the Government be pleased to state.—

(1) whether they have received petitions for the construction of an approach road from the Avinisseri Level crossing to the Ollur Railway Station;

(2) if so, what action have they taken upon it?

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